



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590



REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

HSRW-6J

February 27, 1992

Ms. Liz Uhl  
WW Engineering & Science  
5555 Glenwood Hills Parkway, SE  
P.O. Box 874  
Grand Rapids, MI 49588-0874

RE: Albion-Sheridan Township Landfill Site  
Albion, Michigan

Dear Liz,

As I mentioned to you on the phone about a week ago, EPA headquarters has officially selected the Albion-Sheridan site as a pilot project for using the EPA guidance "Conducting Remedial Investigations/Feasibility Studies for CERCLA Municipal Landfill Sites" (EPA/540/P-91/001 Feb. 1991). Andrea McLaughlin, Region V's coordinator in headquarters, has formed a team of four members -- two from headquarters and two RPMs from other regions -- who will be working with us in using the guidance.

The purpose of the guidance, as I understand it at this point, is to streamline the RI/FS on a landfill site by making assumptions upfront concerning potential remedies for the site and planning the investigation and feasibility study based on those assumptions. Since there are limited and predictable options for a landfill -- cap, groundwater pump and treat, possible hot spot treatment -- the investigation can focus on gathering only the information needed to assist us in selecting an option.

Although we have used the guidance to some extent already, I think that the pilot project work group will help us get a more comprehensive understanding of the guidance and will assist us in implementing it most effectively at our site. I am hopeful that we can explore and implement ways to limit the investigation and feasibility study and speed up the process. I also hope that the Risk Assessment can be streamlined to the greatest extent possible. While deviating from the "norm" will involve some risk, I believe that the potential benefits, such as getting to the ROD and RD/RA faster, make it worth the effort. The keys will be the cooperation and teamwork of everyone involved and well-documented rationale for decisions made.

A "kick-off" meeting with the work group and the project team has

been planned for March 18-20, 1992. March 18 will consist of a site visit, and on March 19 and 20 we will meet at WW Engineering & Science's office in Grand Rapids for our first brainstorming and scoping sessions. Although no agenda or approach has been developed, I envision that we will first discuss the guidance and the site without reference to the draft work plan, and then we will look at how everyone's ideas might be incorporated into the work plan WW has developed. Members of the work group will have received a copy of the draft work plan and field sampling plan. I left a message for Tom Timmermans today asking him to reserve a conference room for those two days. I estimate 6 people will be coming in, plus the number of WW staff you expect to be involved. We can discuss details as I learn more and as we get closer to the meeting.

I think this will be a great opportunity to move a project through the system fast, and I'm optimistic that it will be a success. Give me a call if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Mary Beth Novy*

Mary Beth Novy  
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Pat Vogtman